



THE LONG ITCHINGTON DIARY

March 2017 – May 2017

Published
bi-monthly by the
Long Itchington
Parish Council
(Phone: ~ 815216)
[liparishcouncil@
btconnect.com](mailto:liparishcouncil@btconnect.com)

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Diary Dates

The next LI Diary will
run from:

Sunday 14th May –
Saturday 15th July
inclusive

Please send any
contributions by:

Monday 1st May

to:

Barbara Atkins:

[batkins5691@googlemail.
com](mailto:batkins5691@googlemail.com)

Anne Fessi:

annefessi@yahoo.co.uk

Or phone:
~ 814921

Annual Parish meeting

The 2017 Annual Parish Meeting will take place at the Community Centre on Saturday April 1st. Doors will be open at 9.00am for residents to view local village organisation displays and the meeting will start at 10.00am. Refreshments will be available.

Please come along to hear presentations about the Neighbourhood Plan, latest news of HS2, our on-going emergency planning arrangements and much more.... There will also be plenty of opportunities to ask questions and to put forward your ideas about what the Parish Council should be tackling over the next 12 months.

Green End Toilets

The Parish Council has taken the decision to tackle, as a matter of urgency, the appalling state of the Green End toilets. A project plan is to be drawn up with costings for renovation or complete replacement. You can express your thoughts on this at the APM on April 1st.

HS2 gains Royal Assent

The HS2 railway is going to be built and we shall see around eight years of construction activity around the area. Work will soon begin on the tunnel under Bascote Heath and Long Itchington Wood. Other works will close roads and could sever easy access to Kenilworth, Leamington and Warwick.

Eventually there will be a new roundabout junction with the Fosse Way with traffic diverted to the south, joining another roundabout where traffic would be diverted to turn right at Welsh Road West

There will be a more detailed update at the APM on April 1st. A public meeting is also planned later in the year at which HS2 Ltd will explain their plans and give residents a chance to ask questions and clarify issues.

In the meantime call the HS2 helpline on: 020 7944 4908 with any questions.

Recycling Centres Arrangements for Bank Holidays

On April 14th, 17th, May 1st, 29th and August 28th the Stockton waste recycling centre will be closed, but Princes Drive in Leamington Spa will be open.

Copper Beech Tree to be felled

The Parish Council has consulted two tree specialists regarding the diseased Copper Beech Tree at the north east corner of the pond. The Parish Council is dismayed to learn that there is no option but to fell the tree.

A risk assessment suggests that a violent gust of wind could bring the tree down across the busy A423 or on the road beside the pond.

Much as we love the tree we cannot take this risk. It is with great reluctance and sadness that we will be applying to Stratford District Council for permission to cut the tree down. We plan to replace it with a new tree of a different species.

For more information contact our Tree Warden, Christopher Purser, on: ~ 814315.

Southam Academy update

We have received notification that the conversion date for Southam College to become an Academy has been delayed. This means that the current admission arrangements will remain in force for September 2018.

The trustees have said that they are: "...committed to ensure that all children living in the local catchment area, no matter which school they attend, will have priority over children living outside the catchment area... The feedback [from interested parties] has been very helpful and it will be used as the basis for our future commitment to education in the local community."

Puffin crossing

The proposed Puffin Crossing at the site of the current Zebra crossing will **not** result in the loss of our crossing patrol officer, which is good news.

We have also been informed that the bleeping of the lights will cease overnight so as to reduce nuisance to nearby houses.

Post Office – use it or lose it!

Residents are reminded that the Shop in Leigh Crescent offers a Post Office facility between 9.30am – 11.30am on Wednesdays and Fridays offering a wide range of services – remember to use it!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MARCH

Fri 24th Film – “Suffragette”, Community Centre, 7.30pm

APRIL

Sat 1st Annual Parish Meeting, Community Centre, 9.00am (10.00am start)
Wed 5th Parish Council Meeting, Community Centre, 7.30pm
Sun 9th French Street market, Southam, 10.00am – 4.00pm
Wed 12th Wednesday Club, Community Centre, 2.30pm, Musical Journey
History Group, Community Centre, 7.30pm, Talk by Dr. Shenkman
Wed 26th Community Centre Management Committee AGM, 7.30pm
Friday 28th Beer Festival – see article on this page
Sat 29th Teas in Afternoon, Barn dance in evening
Sun 29th Teas in Afternoon
Sun 30th Second-hand book stall in aid of Cricket Club, 12noon, The Green

MAY

Wed 3rd Parish Council Meeting, Community Centre, 7.30pm
Wed 10th Wednesday Club, Community Centre, 2.30pm, Talk by Ian Brodie
History Group, Community Centre, 7.30pm

Regular events:

Youth Club – every Monday (term time), 7.30pm at the Community Centre
Knit & Natter – every Monday at 7.30pm in the Green Man – all welcome.
LI Brownies – every Tuesday at 6.15pm (term time) in the Community Centre.
Zumba Fitness – every Tuesday at the Primary School at 7.30pm
Long Itchington Young Farmers – every Wednesday, the Green Man at 8.00pm
Yoga – Thursday evenings at 7.30pm (term time) at the Community Centre

SAVE THE DATE

May 31st – Evening Farm Walk at Newfields Farm. Contact: ~ 815119

June 24th – Vintage and Craft Fayre at the Community Centre (details TBC). Please contact Mary on: ~ 813573 or Safi on: ~ 819056 if you would like a stall.

CHURCH AND CHAPEL EVENTS

Holy Trinity Church and Chapel events over Easter

MARCH

Sun 26th Mothering Sunday

APRIL

Sun 2nd Messy Church

Sun 9th Palm Sunday

Thurs 13th Maundy Thursday, Holy Trinity 7.30pm. Chapel 2.30pm

Fri 14th Good Friday (Stations 2.00pm), Holy Trinity. Chapel 7.00pm

Sun 16th Easter (Bishop John), Holy Trinity and Chapel

For other events see: <http://www.longitchingtoncongregationalchurch.org.uk>

Chapel Events

Every Wednesday except in school holidays Pilots, a club for children from four years meets at 6.15pm.

On the first and third Tuesdays Women’s Hour meets at 2.30pm.

Lenten Bible Study on 16th, 23rd and 30th March at 10.45am

Coffee Drop In is on the 1st Thursday each month from 10.00am – 12noon.

Film Night

The next film will be “Suffragette” on Friday 24th March at 7.30pm in the Community Centre.

Tickets at £5 are available from Wendy: ~ 812751 or Margaret: ~ 814397.

Wine, beer and soft drinks will be available and lifts can be offered to Long Itchington residents.

Cricket Fixtures (home)

Sun 22 April - Opp TBC (2.00pm)
Sat 6 May - 2nds v Stoneleigh (1.30pm)
Sun 7 May - Bishops Tachbrook (2.00pm)
Sat 13 May - 1sts v Wellesbourne (1.30pm)

Bowls Open Day

On Sunday 14th May, 11.00am – 4.00pm at Lillington Bowling Club.

Try your hand at Bowls. All ages welcome. Just bring flat shoes.

For more information contact Chris on: ~ 881229 or email: c.venn@sky.com.

French Street Market

Sunday 9th April,
10.00am – 4.00pm

Come along and try freshly-baked baguettes and croissants, cheeses, deli, cured meats etc. Find a bargain amongst leather and accessories stalls.

Southam town centre will be closed to traffic.

Galanos House

Bingo on Monday March 27th at 7.30pm. Bar open and lots of prizes.

Quiz and Chilli Night on Friday 7th April at 7.30pm

Spring Fayre on Saturday 22nd April

For more details phone: ~ 812185.

Anyone for Tennis?

If you would like to play tennis for a fee of less than £1 per week please contact Christine Williams on: ~ 811143.

CHAPEL NEWS *Revd. Marion Hartwell*

This LI Diary covers the most important time of the Christian Year. You will see that during Lent there will be Bible Studies on the Thursday mornings except when we have the Coffee-Drop-in, which always includes a New4U sale.

The study mornings will continue until Maundy Thursday when a special Service will be held at 2.30pm.

This Service will include Holy Communion to remember the time when God brought His people out of slavery.

On Good Friday we hold a special Service at 7.00pm to reflect on the suffering of Jesus leading to death on the cross.

Easter Day at 10.00am and 6.15pm will be a celebration of the resurrection and a Thanksgiving Service that Jesus is alive for us forever.

If you feel you would like to know more about the importance of Easter we would welcome you to any of the Services, or if you would like to talk about it, please contact Marion Hartwell on: ~ 425999 or: 07812 804924.

Community Minibus Hire

WRCC's Community Transport team is keen to maximise use of our fleet of minibuses by making them available for hire to community groups. Find more details about this amazingly affordable service on WRCC website at: www.ruralwarwickshire.org.uk.

WRCC Energy Update

WRCC Energy reached a milestone in January – it has now ordered over three million litres of domestic heating oil since the syndicate started in late 2102.

By clubbing together, WRCC Energy syndicate members have saved a total of £151,511 against average process and £317,480 against the highest prices quoted.

If you use kerosene or LPG to heat your home, get in touch – the syndicate may be able to help you save some money. Call: 01789 472619 or email energy@wrccrural.org.uk.

Tackling the menace of rogue traders

Worried about rogue traders? Not sure where to find fully vetted Trading Standards approved traders?

Warwickshire Trading Standards can help!

Warwickshire Trading Standards has entered into a new partnership with "No Rogue Traders Here", which is an approved trader scheme with a difference. It puts consumers in touch with **fully vetted** traders.

For more information and to register, visit: www.warwickshire.gov.uk/approvedtraders or phone: 0800 233 5000.

CHURCH NEWS & VIEWS

This year, we will be marking Good Friday differently, by having a Stations of the Cross around the village.

We will walk around the village to 13 different "stations", observing at each one a different part of Jesus' journey to his crucifixion, before finishing in the church for the last station.

We have not yet worked out where all the stations will be, but it will probably take about two hours to complete, starting at 2.00pm. If it's raining on the day, we may have to have all the stations in the church. Look out for details during Lent.

We are still hoping for a new Vicar and some new chairs!

Holy Trinity Church does not currently have a website. For information about events, contact the Church Wardens:

Sue Myhill – email: psmyhill@btinternet.com or phone: ~ 814050

Maureen Mitchell – email: maureen@mmts-itd.co.uk or phone: ~ 815255.

Long Itchington Pre-School

Spring is just around the corner and people are already starting to think about the summer. We're taking bookings already for the new school year.

Places are available in pre-school for children aged 2 years 9 months up to school age. Please register now to secure your child's place.

Don't forget your child is entitled to 15 free funded hours from the term after their third birthday.

Please feel free to contact us to discuss on: ~ 811400 or email: preschoollongitchington@gmail.com.

To find out more visit our website at: www.longitchingtonpreschool.org

Long Itchington Brownies

We have spaces for girls aged 7 – 10 years. We have lots of fun, as well as learning new skills. Phone Jenny on: ~ 814147 or Alison on: ~ 811857.

LI Brownies have raised £300 so far for Acorns Children's Hospice by holding a Beetle Drive and using collection boxes. More events to follow!

War Memorial News

Fundraising for the War Memorial goes from strength to strength.

Future events to include: Fun Bingo; a Golf Day; a Farm walk/ride with lunch; a Brownie Tea in Church and a Barn Dance on April 29th.

A raffle will be held at The Harvester during their Beer Festival.

Watch this space for more information.

Long Itchington Cricket Club update

Long Itchington Cricket Club will be holding indoor nets on Wednesday nights (29th March, 5th April and 12th April) at Princethorpe College.

Sessions will be from 7.30pm to 9.00pm. Any current or prospective players will be made most welcome.

The club offers Saturday league cricket in the Cotswold Hills league (two sides playing in the Premier division and division 3), Sunday friendly cricket and a Wednesday night 20/20 side.

Please contact James Clarke on: 07779 015813 or Nick Brooks on: 07737 101671 for further information.

Junior practice under the guidance of accredited coaches will commence on Sunday 23rd April (which will include Registration) at the ground in Stonebridge Lane from 9.30am. All ages will be welcome and sides at under-11, 13 and 15 will play in the Rugby and District league.

For more detailed timings on sessions for each age group please call the junior section co-ordinator Clive Haywood on: 07967 830173 or at: clive@fwhaywood.co.uk or all Tom Perks on: 07792 006382.

The Cricket Club will again be running a secondhand book stall on The Green on Sunday 30th April from 12noon with fiction paperbacks, and plenty of children's, cookery and garden books also available.

Harvester 10th Annual Beer Festival

The Harvester Beer Festival will take place from 28th April – May 1st. From 12noon to 11.00pm each day a selection of 60 real ales and 20 ciders will be available. Several Morris Dancing teams will visit over the weekend. Food will be on sale.

As always, if you look under 18 please bring ID.

For more information please visit us on Facebook: [@harvesterlongitchington](https://www.facebook.com/harvesterlongitchington)

Vintage and Craft Fayre in June

A new fundraising event is planned for June at (and on behalf of) the Community Centre.

There will be many vintage and craft stalls, cream teas and nostalgic music to get you in the mood – it will be a truly English summer event!

If you would like a stall, please ring Mary on: ~ 813573 or Safi on: ~ 819056

Farming Notes

We have just received an unwelcome visit from Doris; fortunately, "she" didn't do too much damage. Having said that it was one of the fiercest storms we have had for several years, but the rain forecast to come with it didn't materialise. Because of this we are still on the low-side for this time of year.

Farming at the moment is marking time, waiting for more spring like weather to appear. Moles seem to have been particularly busy this year, especially on the outfield of the cricket field.

In a previous article, I bemoaned the loss of so much good farmland lost to housing. So, I was please to read that only 10% of the UK has so far been built on. But this is a totally disingenuous claim.

Whoever wrote the article "forgot" to mention that large areas of the UK are totally unsuitable for building, such as: Dartmoor, Exmoor, the South Downs, Lake District, Peak District, Yorkshire Dales, large parts of Scotland and Wales, to name but a few. Therefore, our planning will have to be more thoughtful and inventive.

Whatever the reasons are for global warming I think it's definitely happening, having seen both Bumble and Honey bees working in December and February!

Long Itchington Memorial Garden

Residents regularly ask the Parish Council if they can have a dedication to the memory of a loved one somewhere in the village.

Whilst these requests have always been accommodated willingly, suitable locations have become limited so the Parish Council asked the LILAC team if they could create a Memorial Garden to help meet this need.

Last year the team developed the design for the Garden which enabled them to secure a grant from the **Tesco Bags of Help** scheme to cover the costs of building the central structure of the Garden – the Parish Council then agreed to support the additional funding for the plants and seating.

Work started on the new Memorial garden in the north-west corner of the LILAC field at the end of last year and the structure was completed in January. Planting of the garden and fixing of the seating will start soon.

The plan is to open the Garden in April.

Full details of how residents will be able to order memorial plaques and dedications will be available shortly from the Parish Council office and on the village website: www.longitchington.org.uk

CONTACT DETAILS FOR LONG ITCHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL:

The address for Long Itchington Parish Council is the Community Centre, Stockton Road, Long Itchington, Southam CV47 9QP. All parish planning applications can be viewed there. Opening hours will be Monday and Friday mornings. At other times, please phone and leave a message or email and someone will get back to you.

Phone: ~ 815216

email: liparishcouncil@btconnect.com

Website: www.longitchington.org.uk